

**MINUTES OF THE CITY COMMISSION MEETING
MONDAY, JUNE 24, 2013**

The City of Leesburg Commission held a regular meeting Monday, June 24, 2013, in the Commission Chambers at City Hall. Mayor Knowles called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m. with the following members present:

Commissioner Jay Hurley
Commissioner John Christian
Commissioner Bill Polk
Mayor David Knowles

Commissioner Dennison was absent. Also present were Interim City Manager (ICM) Ray Sharp, City Clerk (CC) Betty Richardson, City Attorney (CA) Fred Morrison, Deputy City Clerk (DCC) Andi Purvis, the news media, and others.

Commissioner Christian gave the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America at the special meeting to select the City Manager finalists immediately prior to this meeting.

PROCLAMATIONS: None

PRESENTATIONS:

LINDA WATTS INTRODUCED THE MISS LEESBURG WINNERS FOR 2013:

MISS LEESBURG ASHLYNNE COUNTS; TEEN MISS LEESBURG LANDI HICKS; JUNIOR MISS LEESBURG JENNA CROFT; LITTLE MISS LEESBURG ANNELISE BALTUNIS; AND TINY MISS LEESBURG KIERSTYN RILEY

HEARD DAVID MARSHALL REGARDING A SWIMMING POOL PROJECT AS PART OF THE FUTURE PLAN

David Marshall with the Leesburg Aquatic Club stated they are pleased with the relationship their club has with the City and the Parks and Recreation staff. Mr. Marshall stated Dr. Przystawski has been very active in bringing attention to the need for a new city pool. He stated he understands the history of the facility and park area of Venetian Gardens and knows where the City is and would like to go but also understand there is a larger picture. The entire Venetian Gardens area has changed and it is time to step back and take a look at the whole area not just the pool, ball field, and community building, but how the City can use the lake front, which is the signature of Leesburg. Mr. Marshall stated he believes the city pool, built in 1928, should be high on the list of items to upgrade and the stadium probably not too far behind. He stated he understands the restraints the market has caused and understands the pace the City has to take, but wanted to make sure this is done with a broad outlook and outline to benefit every citizen of Leesburg and to make sure the swimming pool stays on the list.

Commissioner Hurley asked Dr. Przystawski if there are new funding aspects he learned about to assist with a new pool. **Dr. Przystawski** stated when he spoke with Adam Sumner regarding the Lake County tourism grant, he was told it was too premature to talk about because the facility was not yet far enough along with the City.

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Commissioner Hurley stated he thought Dr. Przystawski was looking at possible locations and asked if any had been found. **Dr. Przystawski** stated last week after their Recreation Advisory Board meeting, he spoke with Marcus Niblack who told him the City owns the land behind the gymnasium which is a beautiful 100 yard wide piece of land where they practice football. Dr. Przystawski stated it is not large enough for a pool, but Mr. Niblack stated the City owns the forest behind it. He stated he walked through there Saturday morning Dr. Przystawski discovered it is a very deep high and dry piece of land that fronts the trail right next to Carver School. This is an area to be looked at as it will tie in everything and be centrally located as everyone could get to it from around Leesburg by either vehicle or bicycle. Dr. Przystawski stated it is 300 to 400 yards of land going back which has never been developed and is owned by the City of Leesburg.

Commissioner Polk asked if anything has been scheduled for the Commission visioning program on Venetian Gardens. He said he wants to make sure the community is involved with any decisions made on the Venetian Gardens area. ICM Sharp stated he plans to discuss it during the budget workshops and also has some cost figures for this, as well as the master planning. He said the things he will discuss are very definitely focused on community involvement and the process used.

Commissioner Hurley stated Venetian Gardens is a community, not Palmora Park and he would like to make sure everyone up front knows when looking at Venetian Gardens he does not want nine people from Palmora Park telling the Commission how it is going to be for the entire community. Venetian Gardens is the gem of Leesburg and its most prized possession is its water ways. He added he does not want to have to go out and get 4,000 petitions from the rest of the town. He said speaking from experience of the beat up factor on volleyball, the City cannot let one small group dictate to everyone. As Commissioners, he wants to be fair from the beginning and see what works for everyone to draw a lot of activity to the area that is going to benefit and help the City's economic development plan and beautification process. He stated there may be several people with ideas who do not even live in Leesburg, but could be really helpful.

Commissioner Polk stated he thinks anyone living next door to something done in the City should be looked at in anyone's neighborhood and the Commission has to look at what directly affects the neighbors in those areas.

Mayor Knowles stated the good news is the City is probably not going to put a swimming pool on the lake because it does not make much sense to put water next to water. He stated the residents of Palmora Park may not have wanted volleyball, but the thing that killed volleyball was the county funding; they initially agreed to fund it and then reneged on their agreement saying they would pay for about \$16,000 of the project which was not what Leesburg expected. Things will come and there will not be housing going up in front of the property now called Palmora Park, Venetian Gardens, whatever but there will be things people are going to enjoy, use, and be open to the public.

Commissioner Christian stated Commissioner Hurley is saying when the consultants are hired for the City's vision session; they will be hired to poll the entire City. The meeting to deal with the master plan of Venetian Gardens, everyone will be able to attend. He also stated he understands not wanting to have one group tell everyone what

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to do, but like Commissioner Polk said when a plan is devised it should be adhered to. Commissioner Christian stated the Commission will listen to any neighborhood directly impacted, but cannot let them determine what benefits the entire City.

Mayor Knowles stated the best thing the City can do with a petition right now is either have an economic recovery which enables it to spend some dollars or to have a petition to raise the millage by one mil, so it can spend money on community projects, but he thinks the one mil is going to be a hard signature to get.

Bennett Walling stated he thought the city was trying to get away from hiring consultants coming in and telling us what our vision is.

Commissioner Christian stated the consultant is a professional who understands how to get everyone's ideas because if staff does it, they may or may not be able to pull the great idea from the little lady in the back of the room.

Mr. Walling said he thought before a consultant was hired the idea was for city staff and the public to get together for a meeting, not violating any Sunshine laws, and come up with ideas before another expense. He stated frankly the City has spent so much money on consultant after consultant and the last one hired for \$25,000 has not found anything yet for the Commission.

Mayor Knowles stated a meeting will set up at the community building.

Commissioner Christian asked ICM Sharp how this is usually done in other cities and if a professional is brought in to facilitate these types of meetings.

ICM Sharp stated if anyone has followed what Clermont is doing now and some years ago when Tavares undertook a process to basically re-brand their city, one of the key issues and the Commission has talked about it in various ways this evening is that the process takes some pains to include all parts of the community. He stated whether the parts are defined by demographics, income levels, or the business communities, these people provide the economic engine for the city and as stake holders need to be involved. ICM Sharp stated the risk of doing this process with staff is you are going to get whatever their view of the moment is and in his opinion it is far better to have a skilled, professional facilitator doing the work. It is money well spent and the end product is far more representative of the community than an in-house effort might be. ICM Sharp stated for the master plan to be effective, it really needs to have set goals, deadlines, and defined budgets to monitor it progress.

Chuck Johnson stated approximately two years ago, he was fortunate to chair a committee called the Venetian Gardens Restoration Committee, appointed by the Commission, which met for about eight months until it was dismissed for lack of funds. He stated however, during the time the Commission allowed them to meet, there was a representative of ever community at Venetian Gardens as well as those within the city which is exactly what he thinks Mr. Sharp is talking about. He also stated rather than paying for a consultant right off the bat, he thinks it would be at least worthy of consideration for the Commission to again appoint such a committee. Then, once some

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types of ideas are reached, then hire the professional. But, without funding it will not work. Mr. Johnson stated he knows there are folks out there willing, ready, and able to serve at the Commission's pleasure.

Commissioner Hurley stated Leesburg did not lose volleyball because the County backed out with the funding; the City lost because the County said they would give the funds if it were twenty courts with two competitions a month. The City reduced it to twelve courts with one day a month competitions reducing the economic impact. It went from being able to have an economic stimulus of two hundred plus thousand to not enough to merit and that is the difference because it was affected by the neighborhood.

Mayor Knowles stated during that meeting he asked if the county, volleyball association and the Palmora Park residents were agreeable to twelve courts and everyone stated they were. He stated the City had an agreement with the County for \$200,000 and they came back and said the funding for twelve courts would be \$16,000, so the County changed the math.

Commissioner Christian stated he said in the meeting, the City was once again rushing on the fly trying to make everyone happy with the courts and schedule. He said in the future when staff is doing a project with a community group; all information needs to be presented to the Commission prior to the time of making the decision.

Commissioner Hurley stated he is actually excited and his point of bringing up the volleyball is he does not want the City to experience the same delay on what is to be developed. He stated he does not want this to drag out and loves the idea as far as all the different groups being involved in the master planning. He stated he would like to see this done sooner than later, but has learned things work slowly up here.

Mr. Walling stated he hopes this Commission and the new City Manager can see the vision that something has got to be done for all the citizens in Leesburg and not just certain sections to see our city thrive.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Commissioner Polk moved to adopt the Consent Agenda and Commissioner Hurley seconded the motion.

The roll call vote was:

Commissioner Polk	Yes
Commissioner Christian	Yes
Commissioner Hurley	Yes
Mayor Knowles	Yes

Four yeas, no nays, the Commission adopted the Consent Agenda, as follows:

CITY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES: None

PURCHASING ITEMS: None

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RESOLUTIONS:

RESOLUTION 9209

Resolution of the City Commission of the City of Leesburg, Florida authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to execute Change Order No. 1 to an agreement with Show Systems Integrators (SSI) for a total of \$7,241.20; and providing an effective date.

OTHER ITEMS: None

ICM Sharp stated staff would like to pull from the agenda at the owner's request. 5.G - contract for Purchase with Lake-Sumter Fuel Oils, Inc., North of Center Street

ADOPTED RESOLUTION 9210 PERTAINING TO A PRIOR DEVELOPER'S AGREEMENT WITH MICHAEL AND SUSAN BURNER, FOR THE PURPOSE OF RESCINDING THE DEVELOPER'S AGREEMENT

Commissioner Polk introduced the resolution to be read by title only. CC Richardson read the resolution by title only, as follows:

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LEESBURG, FLORIDA, PERTAINING TO A PRIOR DEVELOPER'S AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF LEESBURG AND MICHAEL AND SUSAN BRUNER, RELATED TO PROPERTY NOW OWNED BY BRANCH BANKING AND TRUST, TO BE ACQUIRED BY MD EXPANSION, LLC, AT THE CORNER OF U.S. HIGHWAY 441 AND FERN DRIVE, FOR THE PURPOSE OF RESCINDING THE DEVELOPER'S AGREEMENT BASED ON AN APPLICATION FOR RESCISSION FILED BY KHAI CHANG WHICH HAS BEEN ASSIGNED TO MD EXPANSION, LLC, SO AS TO PERMIT THE USE AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE SUBJECT PROPERTY FOR PURPOSES OTHER THAN THOSE SPECIFIED IN THE DEVELOPER'S AGREEMENT, AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE

Commissioner Christian moved to adopt the resolution and Commissioner Hurley seconded the motion.

Mayor Knowles requested comments from the Commission and the audience. There were none.

The roll call vote was:

Commissioner Christian	Yes
Commissioner Hurley	Yes
Commissioner Polk	Yes
Mayor Knowles	Yes

Four yeas, no nays, the Commission adopted the resolution.

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ADOPTED ORDINANCE 13-22 REZONING APPROXIMATELY 5.5 ACRES ON THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF US 441 AND FERN DRIVE (BRANCH BANKING AND TRUST/ MD EXPANSION, LLC)

City Clerk Richardson read the ordinance by title only, as follows:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF LEESBURG, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE ZONING OF APPROXIMATELY 5.5 ACRES FROM CITY CIP (COMMERCIAL INDUSTRIAL PLANNED) TO A CITY SPUD (SMALL PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT) TO ALLOW A MEDICAL CENTER USE FOR A PROPERTY ON THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF US 441 AND FERN DRIVE, AS LEGALLY DESCRIBED IN SECTION 19, TOWNSHIP 19, RANGE 25, LAKE COUNTY, FLORIDA, SUBJECT TO CONDITIONS CONTAINED IN EXHIBIT A; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE. (Branch Banking and Trust/ MD Expansion, LLC)

Commissioner Christian moved to adopt the ordinance and Commissioner Polk seconded the motion.

Mayor Knowles requested comments from the Commission and audience. There were none.

The roll call vote was:

Commissioner Hurley	Yes
Commissioner Polk	Yes
Commissioner Christian	Yes
Mayor Knowles	Yes

Four yeas, no nays, the Commission adopted the ordinance.

FIRST READING OF AN ORDINANCE EXTENDING THE EXISTING WAIVER OF CITY IMPACT FEES UNTIL SEPTEMBER 30, 2013

Commissioner Christian introduced the ordinance to be read by title only. CC Richardson read the ordinance by title only, as follows:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF LEESBURG, FLORIDA, EXTENDING THE EXISTING WAIVER ON COLLECTION OF CITY IMPACT FEES UP TO A SPECIFIED AMOUNT PER PROJECT, UNTIL SEPTEMBER 30, 2013; SETTING FORTH LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS, CONTINUING THE SUSPENSION OF COLLECTION OF WATER, WASTEWATER, AND MUNICIPAL SERVICES IMPACT FEES FOR THE PERIOD FROM EXPIRATION OF THE PREVIOUS ORDINANCE SUSPENDING COLLECTION, UNTIL SEPTEMBER 30, 2013; ESTABLISHING A MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF IMPACT FEES WHICH MAY BE WAIVED ON ANY SINGLE PROJECT, LIMITING THE WAIVER OF IMPACT FEES UNDER THIS ORDINANCE TO PROJECTS CONSTRUCTED WITHIN THE MUNICIPAL LIMITS OF

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THE CITY OF LEESBURG, PROVIDING FOR REINSTATEMENT OF IMPACT FEES COMMENCING OCTOBER 1, 2013, REQUIRING PAYMENT OF IMPACT FEES SUSPENDED BY THIS ORDINANCE IF A CERTIFICATE OF OCCUPANCY FOR THE PROJECT IS NOT ISSUED WITHIN EIGHTEEN MONTHS OF ISSUANCE OF A BUILDING PERMIT FOR THE PROJECT, PERMITTING NEGOTIATION OF IMPACT FEES ON CERTAIN PROJECTS AS PART OF AN OVERALL ECONOMIC INCENTIVE PACKAGE, PROVIDING A SAVINGS CLAUSE, AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE

Mayor Knowles requested comments from the Commission and the audience.

Commissioner Polk asked what impact fees are being reinstated.

ICM Sharp stated Water, Wastewater, Police, Library and Recreation.

Commissioner Polk stated the ordinance allows impact fees to be part of an overall incentive package for economic development and asked if this would be on an individual fee or all of them.

CA Morrison stated it could be any combination of the above.

Commissioner Polk asked if the City did not use them to enhance the water, wastewater, police, and library or recreation departments would this not just be a tax charged to the citizens.

CA Morrison stated the negotiation would be that the fees for a particular project qualify for those incentives and they would have those fees reduced or eliminated.

Commissioner Polk stated so if not actually spending the money made from impact fees, the City would be reducing or eliminating the fees for incentive packages and asked if there are other cities in the area implementing their impact fees which were previously eliminated. ICM Sharp state he is aware of other cities also doing this but does not recall which ones at this time but will have that information available at the next commission meeting.

Bennett Walling asked if the City is going back to the full impact fees it had prior to suspending them. ICM Sharp stated yes.

Mr. Walling stated he thought the whole reason they were eliminated was to boost economic development benefits and asked if this will now cause an economic expense.

ICM Sharp stated no. What the ordinance means is the City is re-implementing the impact fees and should an economic development opportunity come along as part of the overall incentive package staff can reduce or eliminate those impact fees for that particular development.

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ADOPTED RESOLUTION 9211 AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT WITH THE SANDERS COMPANY

Commissioner Polk introduced the resolution to be read by title only. CC Richardson read the resolution by title only, as follows:

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF
LEESBURG, FLORIDA AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY
CLERK TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH THE SANDERS
COMPANY TO FURNISH WELL STATION CONTROL PANEL
UPGRADES FOR THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT AT NINE
SITES FOR A TOTAL COST OF \$124,978.00; AND PROVIDING AN
EFFECTIVE DATE.

Commissioner Christian moved to adopt the resolution and Commissioner Hurley seconded the motion.

Mayor Knowles requested comments from the Commission and the audience.

Commissioner Polk stated he never liked single option bids, but did notice this company has done work for the City before. But, if going to bid something out he thinks there should be more than one bidder.

Purchasing Manager (PM) Mike Thornton stated the City had two firms attend the pre-bid meeting, but only one firm submitted a bid. This is somewhat of a specialty item so he does not think there was not enough interest as far as the items to be purchased.

Interim Public Works Director (IPWD) DC Maudlin stated staff did open the specifications for the two specific controllers and also indicated any equivalent but stated it has to be compatible with our current system.

Commissioner Polk thanked all for their comments.

The roll call vote was:

Commissioner Polk	Yes
Commissioner Christian	Yes
Commissioner Hurley	Yes
Mayor Knowles	Yes

Four yeas, no nays, the Commission adopted the resolution.

ADOPTED RESOLUTION 9212 AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A JOINT PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT WITH FDOT TO REALIGN TAXIWAY "A" AT LEESBURG INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

Commissioner Christian introduced the resolution to be read by title only. CC Richardson read the resolution by title only, as follows:

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RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LEESBURG, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A JOINT PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT WITH FDOT, UNDER WHICH THE DEPARTMENT WILL FUND 80% OF THE COST TO HAVE BIDDING SERVICES PERFORMED THAT ARE ASSOCIATED WITH A PROJECT TO REALIGN TAXIWAY "A" AT LEESBURG INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Commissioner Christian moved to adopt the resolution and Commissioner Hurley seconded the motion.

Mayor Knowles requested comments from the Commission and the audience. There were none.

The roll call vote was:

Commissioner Christian	Yes
Commissioner Hurley	Yes
Commissioner Polk	Yes
Mayor Knowles	Yes

Four yeas, no nays, the Commission adopted the resolution.

ADOPTED RESOLUTION 9213 AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF TASK ORDER NO. 9 WITH HANSON PROFESSIONAL SERVICES, INC.

Commissioner Christian introduced the resolution to be read by title only. CC Richardson read the resolution by title only, as follows:

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LEESBURG, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF TASK ORDER NO. 9 WITH HANSON PROFESSIONAL SERVICES, INC. TO HAVE BIDDING SERVICES PERFORMED THAT ARE ASSOCIATED WITH A PROJECT TO REALIGN TAXIWAY "A" AT LEESBURG INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE

Commissioner Christian moved to adopt the resolution and Commissioner Polk seconded the motion.

Mayor Knowles requested comments from the Commission and the audience. There were none.

The roll call vote was:

Commissioner Hurley	Yes
Commissioner Polk	Yes
Commissioner Christian	Yes
Mayor Knowles	Yes

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Four yeas, no nays, the Commission adopted the resolution.

ADOPTED RESOLUTION 9214 AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A FIRST AMENDMENT TO AN EXISTING AGREEMENT WITH GRESCO, INC.

Commissioner Hurley introduced the resolution to be read by title only. CC Richardson read the resolution by title only, as follows:

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF
LEESBURG, FLORIDA AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY
CLERK TO EXECUTE A FIRST AMENDMENT TO AN EXISTING
AGREEMENT WITH GRESCO, INC. FOR AN ELECTRIC POWER
TRANSFORMER STOCKING PROGRAM; AND PROVIDING AN
EFFECTIVE DATE

Commissioner Christian moved to adopt the resolution and Commissioner Polk seconded the motion.

Mayor Knowles requested comments from the Commission and the audience.

Commissioner Polk asked if five years is not a long time to extend a contract.

ICM Sharp stated the City has a variety of contracts, typically for three years with a one year interval renewal. He stated, in this case, given the nature of the contract basically Gresco is stocking these materials for the City so it avoids the cost of having them in inventory and stated he does not think the time is inappropriate in this case.

Commissioner Polk asked if the price will hold for the five years. PM Thornton stated this price will be held for the first year of the extension and then there are price escalation and de-escalation clauses in the contract. He stated there are provisions for price increases if steel goes up or components of the product, but in this case they have lowered their price from the master agreement.

The roll call vote was:

Commissioner Polk	Yes
Commissioner Christian	Yes
Commissioner Hurley	Yes
Mayor Knowles	Yes

Four yeas, no nays, the Commission adopted the resolution.

PULLED RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A CONTRACT FOR SALE AND PURCHASE WITH LAKE-SUMTER FUEL OILS, INC. NORTH OF CENTER STREET

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF
LEESBURG, FLORIDA AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY

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CLERK TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT FOR SALE AND PURCHASE
WITH LAKE-SUMTER FUEL OILS, INC. FOR A PARCEL
IDENTIFIED BY ALTERNATE KEY NUMBER 1174295, NORTH OF
CENTER STREET; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE

TABLED RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A LEASE AGREEMENT WITH WIPAIRE, INC. FOR SPACE LOCATED AT LEESBURG INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

ICM Sharp stated as a reminder this item was on a previous agenda and tabled to tonight's meeting as a time certain. The lease agreement is still under negotiation and has not been finalized. Request is for the Commission to table this item until such time as the lease has been negotiated and finalized rather than to a time certain.

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF
LEESBURG, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A LEASE
AGREEMENT WITH WIPAIRE, INC. FOR SPACE LOCATED AT
8816 AND 9020 US HIGHWAY 441, LEESBURG INTERNATIONAL
AIRPORT; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE

Commissioner Polk moved to table the resolution and Commissioner Christian seconded the motion.

The roll call vote was:

Commissioner Christian	Yes
Commissioner Hurley	Yes
Commissioner Polk	Yes
Mayor Knowles	Yes

Four yeas, no nays, the Commission adopted the resolution.

APPROVED CONVERSION OF AIRPORT MANAGER FROM PART-TIME TO FULL-TIME STATUS

Commissioner Christian moved to convert the part time Airport Manager position to a full time position and Commissioner Polk seconded the motion.

Mayor Knowles requested comments from the Commission and the audience. There were none.

The roll call vote was:

Commissioner Hurley	Yes
Commissioner Polk	Yes
Commissioner Christian	Yes
Mayor Knowles	Yes

Four yeas, no nays, the Commission approved the full time position.

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APPOINTED PATRICK FOSTER, DEPUTY ELECTRIC DIRECTOR, AS THE CITY OF LEESBURG'S ALTERNATE REPRESENTATIVE TO FLORIDA MUNICIPAL POWER ASSOCIATION REPLACING BILL SPINELLI, FINANCE DIRECTOR

Commissioner Christian moved to appoint Patrick Foster as the City's alternate representative to the Florida Municipal Power Association and Commissioner Polk seconded the motion.

Mayor Knowles requested comments from the Commission and the audience. There were none.

The roll call vote was:

Commissioner Christian	Yes
Commissioner Hurley	Yes
Commissioner Polk	Yes
Mayor Knowles	Yes

Four yeas, no nays, the Commission appointed Patrick Foster as the Florida Municipal Power Association alternate for the City of Leesburg.

INFORMATIONAL REPORTS:

Miscellaneous Account Receivable balances as of April 2013

Expected Write-offs as of April 2013

Monthly Financial Report for March 2013

City Manager Contingency Budget

CITY ATTORNEY ITEMS: None

CITY MANAGER ITEMS:

ICM Sharp stated all Commissioners have received the first version of the Airport progress report update that was requested at a prior meeting and stated Airport Manager Leo Treggi will now be preparing these on a bi-weekly basis.

Staff will have a work day in Venetian Gardens on July 1st for the final touches before the July 4th celebration.

The six new bridges have been completed in Venetian Gardens and the project was completed prior to the original contract date of September. Project Manager Mike Cavanaugh and the contracted team worked very well together and the bridges turned out quite nicely.

A very positive thing for one of our senior staff members, Captain Rob Hicks, has been invited to be the key note speaker for two upcoming graduations of the Certified Public Manager (CPM) program. Many Department Heads and other staff have gone through this program sponsored through FSU and it is the equivalent of a master degree once all classes have been achieved. ICM Sharp stated this is a feather in Captain Hicks' cap as

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well as an honor for the city, so please feel free to congratulate Captain Hicks next time you see him.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Don Lukich stated as a retired business man, he has a few thoughts for input on the City Manager selection. He would look at an assistant City manager from maybe a little larger city which would be a step up who has already been doing the dirty work and would not look quite as hard for electric utility experience as someone coming in with an open mind may see what an experienced person might not.

Clay Bell, owner of Professional Water Cleanup, stated about three months ago, he submitted a bid and is still waiting to hear what happened. He asked what is happening with the City's water ways and ponds. The vegetation is once again getting high.

Commissioner Hurley asked if it was a bid on maintaining the City's water ways. Mr. Bell stated yes, on maintaining all the retention areas and water ways throughout the City.

PM Thornton referred to the meeting where this item came up for bid, the recommendation to award was defeated and no direction was given so staff has been going on a month to month basis with the previous contractor.

Commissioner Christian stated he thinks this is the same category as Mr. Hewitt where Mr. Bell's company was the second lowest bidder

PM Thornton stated this is correct; the recommendation for the vegetation award was voted down and the underground utilities item was tabled until a future meeting.

ICM Sharp stated the City does not have the contract it had for routine maintenance and said he will get with IPWD Maudlin and report back to the Commission. He stated he believes staff has been treating it on a spot basis, but not with the same intensity and oversight previously.

Commissioner Polk stated there are several ponds in town in need of attention now. Mayor Knowles stated staff would have an answer on this at the July 8th commission meeting.

Mr. Bell also stated he was told by the Marina staff there is no longer a Recreation Department and he stated the City used to have the best recreation and asked what happened.

ICM Sharp stated Mr. Bell had been misinformed. The buildings and grounds division (recreation) have been transferred to Public Works and the Programs division (gymnasium/community building/marina, etc.) are still in full operation and are under the supervision of the HR Director and moving forward.

ROLL CALL:

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Commissioner Polk stated the City has some upcoming events next week at Venetian Gardens and asked Chuck Johnson if he would like to expound on this for the public's information. **Mr. Chuck Johnson** stated on July 4, 2013, the City of Leesburg will once again be hosting quite possibly America's finest 4th of July celebration. This begins early in the day in Venetian Gardens resulting in a baseball game with the armed forces around 6:30 p.m. and then celebrates later with a fireworks display from the boat basin. He stated they hope to provide the City of Leesburg quite possibly the finest entertainment available that day; a celebration for our flag and armed forces and our flag flies proudly over the baseball park every day and night and very proud to be part of America and proud to put our City on display for the rest of the world to see. He invited everyone to come down, be a part of our great community and see how great it can be.

Commissioner Polk stated the City has a new bike trail from US 27 to the other side of town and it needs to be mowed soon. He also stated he was asked by the Lowe's Manager if the City could mow the corner lot across from Cracker Barrel by the Hess Station which he understands the City owns, but has not been mowed in over a year. **CA Morrison** stated that is not quite accurate and when that road was realigned Steve Richey represented the owner of what had been the corner lot and through negotiations with then City Manager Otte, they acquired the easement over road right of way which effectively makes that a corner lot and the City is owner in name only. **Commissioner Polk** asked if the City can sell or rent the property. **CA Morrison** stated no, the lot owner effectively has all rights to use it. **Commissioner Polk** asked if Waffle House bought half the lot, are they considered the owners. **CA Morrison** stated he has not searched the title of that property in a number of years, but if the Waffle House bought it they acquired the easement along with it. **Commissioner Polk** asked who is ultimately responsible to take care of it. **CA Morrison** stated it would be their responsibility to mow the lot and the easement. **Commissioner Polk** stated he was out there this morning and it looks like someone attempted to mow part of it, but had a mishap with the mower or something. **IPWD Maudlin** stated he was told this was cut today and will finish what was started.

Commissioner Polk stated there was much talk tonight about consultants and for \$21,000 odd dollars for a city manager search you see what the City received. He stated he was highly disappointed in the search and thinks Leesburg could have done that good a job. He stated Mr. Walling was correct about one thing, consultants do not always deliver what you bargain for and said; hopefully the consultant will submit more names worthwhile to review.

Commissioner Christian – nothing.

Commissioner Hurley thanked Commissioner Polk and Mayor Knowles for working on the barges with the Partnership and all those who helped to ensure the City will have a better fireworks presentation this year and again thanked IPWD Maudlin and the Parks and Recreation Department for their efforts in working with the Boys and Girls Club; it has all turned out well. Commissioner Hurley also stated he agrees with Commissioner Polk in regards to the consultants.

Mayor Knowles thanked Cutrale for donating the barrels and Romac for donating the wood used on the barges. Also, Electric Services showed up Saturday morning at 6:30

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a.m. with a group of about forty-five guys who were an incredible team and by 10:00 a.m. the barges were complete. Mayor Knowles stated on the candidates for City Manager, he thought it was his responsibility to pick out five candidates and struggled to find four. He stated he is not excited, but this is the system the Commission selected. He stated when the last City Manager was chosen there were about one hundred people to look through and he thanked the personnel department for given an "A" and "B" list to review. He stated he spent weeks reviewing them and even had some people in the community help to pick out candidates and that was a very long process. He stated if the consultants cannot provide at least two more good candidates he thinks this probably should be rebid. Mayor Knowles stated he thinks selecting a City Manager is probably going to be the most important decision the Commission makes for the next year because Ray Sharp is the guy right now and he is directing the City and Commission and he has done a very capable job. **Commissioner Hurley** asked if this rebid does the City's financial responsibility to the consultant change. **ICM Sharp** stated no. Actually the terms of their proposal in the contract is they keep going until either the Commission fires them or they produce a suitable group of candidates and there is no increase in the cost.

ADJOURN:

Commissioner Polk moved to adjourn the meeting and Commissioner Christian seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 6:36 p.m.

Mayor

ATTEST:

Betty M. Richardson
City Clerk

J. Andi Purvis
Recorder